

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT Industrial Report: Electronic, Rubber, Metal  
Machine, Paper, Cellulose, Chemical and Cement  
Plants

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1. Valsts Elektrotehniska Fabrica (The State Electrotechnical Plant).

Location: Vidzemes Soseja, Riga, Latvia.

Number of Buildings: About 20.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, good condition.

Types of Products: Electric apparatus and equipment, light bulbs, radios, photo cameras, photo film, electric wires and wire insulation, metal plating, and radar equipment.

Shipments: To USSR.

Raw Materials: Metals - Iron, copper, zinc, lead, silver, gold, nickel and chromium (metals are obtained through Sweden and Finland and zinc from Poland).  
Cellulose, wood and glass parts.

Equipment: Machine tools, plating tanks, film processing equipment, automatic machinery, extruding machines for coating wires.

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Number of Buildings: Eight.

Condition of Buildings: Brick - very old.

Types of Products: Has stopped working because of poor building and equipment conditions. Formerly made mainly rubber footwear.

Shipments: To USSR.

Raw Materials: Same as for Varonis.

Equipment: Two steam boilers, several rubber mills, vulcanizing presses, and curing boilers.

Age of Equipment: Very old, useless.

Technical Personnel: Have stopped working.

Labor: Formerly 300 workers, none in 1953.

Research: None.

Special Products: None.

Special Processes: None.

4. Sarkanais Kvadrats (The Red Square Rubber Plant).

Location: 225 Maskavas iela, Riga.

Number of Buildings: One large building and one storage building.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, good condition.

Types of Products: Rubber shoes and boots.

Shipments: To USSR.

Raw Materials: Same as for Varonis.

Equipment: Two steam boilers, two calenders, one Banbury mixer (50 liter), 20 rubber mills, one curing boiler, one vulcanizing press for bicycle tires.

Age of Equipment: Set up in 1930.

Technical Personnel: Two chemists, one engineer and six technicians. The former main chemist and engineer were killed by the Soviets.

Labor: One thousand workers.

Research: Kvadrats was closely associated with a German firm [redacted] [redacted] Their research work before World War II was done there.

Special Products: None

Special Processes: None.

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## 5. Sarkanais Vairogs (The Red Banner Metal Machine Shop).

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Location: Vidzemes soseja, Riga.

Number of Buildings: About 20.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, medium good condition.

Types of Products: Railroad cars, wagon axles, horse shoes. Before World War II, built cars with Ford parts.

Shipments: To USSR.

Raw Materials: Wood from Latvia and iron from the Don Basin, USSR.

Equipment: Steel furnace (uses Siemens-Martin process), machine tools and cranes.

Age of Equipment: Old.

Technical Personnel: Four engineers, 10 technical draftsmen.

Labor: About 1500 workers.

Research: Research with the purpose to increase the strength of materials, calculations.

Special Products: Railway cars and streetcars.

Special Processes: The Siemens-Martin process in producing steel.

## 6. Ligatnes Papira Fabrika (Paper Factory).

Date of Information: 1944.

Location: Ligatne, 60 km from Riga.

Number of Buildings:

Condition of Building

Types of Products: Writing paper only. Makes the best in all of USSR.

Shipments: To USSR. Formerly to Western Europe.

Raw Materials: Wood and linen rags.

Equipment: Paper processing machinery.

Age of Equipment:

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Labor: About 400 workers.

Research: Improvement of quality, increase of "Folding Number."

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Special Products: Linen writing paper. Cigarette paper, which is considered the finest a paper factory can produce.

Special Processes: [REDACTED]

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7. Slokas Cellulozes Fabrika (Cellulose Factory).

[REDACTED]  
Location: Sloka, 25 km from Riga.

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Number of Buildings: [REDACTED]

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Condition of Buildings: [REDACTED]

Types of Products: Cellulose, newspaper material, and wrapping paper.

Shipments: To USSR. Necessary for making explosives.

Raw Materials: Wood from Latvia.

Equipment: Cellulose processing machinery.

Age of Equipment: [REDACTED]

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Technical Personnel: [REDACTED] Mr. E. Langins is a specialist and worked in this factory.

Labor: About 500 workers.

Research: [REDACTED]

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Special Products: Sulfite - cellulose.. A great deal of work has been done on this product.

Special Processes: Producing of sulfite cellulose which differs from ordinary cellulose.

8. Liepajas Kara Ostas Darbnica (Naval Base Shop in Lepaya)

[REDACTED]  
Location: Lepaya, Latvia, at the Baltic Sea.

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Number of Buildings: [REDACTED] Plant covers part of town.

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Condition of Buildings: [REDACTED]

Types of Products: Repair ships, build railroad cars.

Shipments: To USSR.

Raw Materials: Wood from Latvia, and iron from Don Basin, USSR.

Equipment: Automatic machinery, steel furnace using Siemens-Martin process (there are only two furnaces of this type in Latvia, the other being at Sarkanais Vairogs), and machine tools.

Age of Equipment: Partly old. New machinery set up in 1935-1940.

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Technical Personnel: About 20 engineers and draftsmen.

Labor: About two thousand workers.

Research: Constructional research.

Special Products: Building of pontoon bridges.

Special Processes: [REDACTED]

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9. Rutenbergs Kimiska Fabrika (The Rutenberg Chemical Factory).

[REDACTED]

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Location: Dzirnavas iela, Riga.

Number of Buildings: About four.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, wood of medium good condition.

Types of Products: Charcoal, methyl-alcohol, acetic acid, wood tar, and candles.

Shipments: To other chemical plants in Latvia and to the USSR.

Raw Materials: Wood from birch trees grown in Latvia.

Equipment: Dry distillation units and distillation apparatus.

Age of Equipment: Set up in 1925.

Technical Personnel: Two chemists and one engineer.

Labor: About 100 workers.

Research: [REDACTED]

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Special Products: Wood tar products, methyl alcohol and acetic acid.

Special Processes: Dry distillation, fractionate distillation of wood tar products.

10. Superfosfata Fabrika

[REDACTED]

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Location: Milgravi, 20 km from Riga at the River Daugava.

Number of Buildings: Five large buildings.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, excellent condition.

Types of Products: Artificial fertilizer, sulphuric acid.

Shipments: For local use in Latvia and other Baltic States.

Raw Materials: Minerals, phosphorite, apatite, and sulphur.

Equipment: Tanks for processing sulphuric acid (lead plates were confiscated either by Soviets or Germans so plant had to stop working) conveyors and boilers for dissolving apatite.

Age of Equipment: Set up in 1930. Good condition.

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Technical Personnel: [redacted] this plant is not working because of the lack of lead plates. Before World War II, there were two chemists. Most of the machinery operated was fully automatic.

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Labor: Formerly about 50.

Research: [redacted]

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Special Products: Superphosphate, sulphuric acid.

Special Processes: Camera process used for production of sulphuric acid.  
Sulphuric acid used as solvent for apathite.

# 11. Rigas Cementu Fabrika.

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Location: Riga, on the shore of the River Daugava.

Number of Buildings: Six.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, good condition.

Types of Products: Portland cement.

Shipments: For local use and to USSR.

Raw Materials: Sand, lime, clay. Calcium and magnesium silicates.

Equipment: 10 ball mills, conveyors, conveyor trains, mixers, escalators.

Age of Equipment: Modernized in 1935 by a German firm. Excellent condition.

Technical Personnel: [redacted]

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Labor: 100 workers.

Research: Impregnation of cardboard with plaster of Paris in order to produce reproof walls.

Special Products: Portland cement. Soviets need a great deal of this product for the building of fortifications.

Special Processes: None.

# 12. Saldus Cementa Fabrika.

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Location: Near Saldus, about 100 km from Riga in the district of Kurzeme.

Number of Buildings: Six.

Condition of Buildings: Brick, excellent condition.

Types of Products: Portland cement.

Shipments: For local use and to USSR.

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Raw Materials: Sand, lime, clay. Calcium and magnesium silicates. Raw materials are in the vicinity of the factory.

Equipment: Ball mills, conveyors, conveyor trains, mixers, escalators.

Age of Equipment: Set up in 1940. Very modern, excellent condition.

Technical Personnel: The Riga and the Saldus cement factories were closely associated, and in contact with a [ ] firm. Very efficient plants.

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Labor: About 150 workers.

Research: Testing and improving strength of cement.

Special Products: Portland cement.

Special Processes: None.

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